

CPSC 3 (b)(1) Cleared  
R 2/9/96  
No Min/Rev  
Product Id  
Exempt  
CPSC 3 (b)(1) Cleared

**LOG OF MEETING**  
**DIRECTORATE FOR LABORATORY SCIENCES**

**SUBJECT:** Training Session for Interlaboratory Labs

**DATE OF MEETING:** September 5, 1996

**PLACE:** CPSC Engineering Lab, Gaithersburg, Md.

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Frank Vitaliti

**DATE OF ENTRY:** September 24, 1996

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** Dale Ray, Econ.; Rikki Khanna, Engr. Sciences; Mark Eilbert, Engr. Lab; Linda Fansler, Engr. Lab; James Hoebel, Engr. Sciences; John Murphy, Engr. Sciences; Frank Vitaliti, Engr. Lab.

**NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:** John Shields, NIST; Said Nurbakhsh, Cal BHF; Handley Fincher, Drexel Heritage; Joe Ziolkowski and Russ Batson, AFMA; Steve Lewandowski, Bayer Corp.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING**

The purpose of this meeting was to provide training to the three laboratories that are participating in a limited interlaboratory study in support of the Upholstered Furniture project. The three laboratories included in this round are:

- the National Institute for Standards and Technology;
- the California Bureau of Home Furnishings; and
- Drexel Heritage

The following items were discussed during this meeting:

- Dale Ray, CPSC, presented the background of the Upholstered Furniture Project. He stated that the principal goal of the project is to develop a possible mandatory or voluntary standard for open flame resistance. He also indicated that the parameters used in this round of testing would not necessarily follow through into a final standard.
- Rikki Khanna reviewed the working draft test protocol (Bench Scale Test Method for Upholstered Furniture Ignition Resistance To Small Open-Flame Sources) that the participants will follow;
- Mark Eilbert gave an overview of the mechanical operation of the new test fixture (Furniture Flammability Fixture) developed by the CPSC Engineering Laboratory;

- CPSC lab staff demonstrated mounting specimens for the dustcover, skirt, and seat mockups;
- Representatives from the three participating labs practiced mounting the specimens onto the mockup frames of the dustcover, skirt, and seat;
- CPSC lab staff then demonstrated how the test fixture operated and gave the participating labs the opportunity to operate the fixture and become familiar with the test protocol.

The test fixtures are being shipped to the laboratories participating in the interlaboratory evaluation. Each laboratory will test the specimens using the test fixture and return the instrument and test results back to CPSC for analysis. The data will help CPSC to assess the repeatability and reproducibility of the test procedure. CPSC also expects comments regarding the operability of the instrument and the protocol. This will help the CPSC to draft a future standard regarding the flammability of materials used in upholstered furniture.

#### DISTRIBUTION

OS

EXHR

D. Ray, EC

J. Hoebel, ES

R. Khanna, ES

L. Fansler, LS

J. Murphy, ES

F. Vitaliti, LS

A. Ulsamer, LS